



HO SHOT JOHNNY ROCK? 'EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW OF AMERICAN LASER GAMES' GANGSTER SHOOT-'EM-UP ON CO.

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- **LOST EDEN**
- - KINGDOM



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In Sight all the latest news, reviews and scoops for CD INTERACTIVE

News: Andy Clough takes a look at some of the terrific new titles that will be unveiled at the E3 show in Los Angeles this month; and brings news of exciting CDI developments in Europe



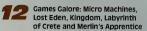
he French have always had a certain tyle about the way they do things, and nowhere is this more evident than in the software development community. Ever since the early days of CDi, French developers have been push-

ing CDi technology to the limits. Just look at what Infogrames achieved with Kerher in the days before Digital Video, and more recently with Chaos Control. Both titles introduced a new level of graphic realism into computer games. Now Cryo Interactive is pushing the boundaries even further with the development of Lost Eden for CDi. As our reporter discovered when he visited Cryo's Paris HO, the French take their computer games very, very seriously. Creating the right atmosphere, both visually and aurally, is critical. Some of the scenes in Lost Eden are breathtaking. But there is a danger in becoming too involved with

the technology. Developers must never, never forget that gameplay - that elusive element that makes any game so addictive - is still a vital ingredient. No amount of Silicon Graphics-generated visuals will hide the fact that some games still lack playability.

Andy Clough, Editor

Exclusive preview! A first glimpse of the classic arcade game Who Shot Johnny Rock ? on CDi





Andy Stout visits Cryo Interactive in Paris, the software company developing Lost Eden for CDi

Tinsel Town: news of the latest Hollywood movies on Video CD

Thumbelina, Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale, is being turned into a CDi game. Andy Clough reports

Kids' stuff: Pecos Bill. Children's Musical Theatre, Paint School 1&2

Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia has been updated for 1995 with Digital Video



Player's Guides: hot tips for Litil Divil and Dragon's Lair II from our fearless duo. Steve Haves and Darren Hedges

elp Dirk the Daring rescue aphne in Dragon's Lair II

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COVER

Mark Tynan



Editor: Andy Clough. Art Direction: Ursula Morgan. Chief sub-editor: Sheila Reid. Contributors: Patrick Bateman, Steve Haves, Darren Hedges, Ben Southwell, Andy Stout. Photography: Mark Tynan. Office Manager: Wendy Stonebridge. Advertising: Pervez Hussain. Production Assistant: Meurig Evans, Publishing assistant: Emma Wright, Publisher; Peter Higham, Publishing Director; Tony Schulb, Editorial/Advertising: CDi Magazine, Haymarket Publishing Ltd, 38-42 Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 OJE, UK. Tel: 011 44 181 943 5896 Fax 011 44 181 943 5993. Us advertising: 1500 16th Street, Suite 100, San Francisco, CA 94103. Tel: 415 626 1593 Fax: 415 703 6110





E3 DEBUT FOR NEW

hilips is expected to unveil a host of new CDi games titles at the E3 show in Los Angeles this month that are due for

release this fall.

World Cup Golf, Down In The Dumps, The Dame Was Loaded, Dwayne, Dead End and Alien Ally are all slated for release on CDi (and CD-ROM) in the final quarter of this year.

Long-awaited titles such as Lost Eden and Creature Shock will also make their debut this fall. And this summer will see the release of Micro Machines, Discworld, Rise of the Robots and Who Shot Johnny Rock? David McElhatten, president of Philips Media Games, says: "We have a plethora of titles coming out on CDi this year. As well as the titles to be announced at E3, we have signed Mad Dog McCree II — The Lost Gold, Kingdom II and Crime Patrol for the CDi format. Voyeur II is already in production, and we will announce more new titles later this year."

Here is a taste of what's to come:

World Cup Golf

tus Gold: re-create the World Cup tournament or four alternative championships with the stunning Hyatt Golf Course as your backdrop in this golf simulation game. The CDi version will feature stunning fly-bys, unique to the format. It will feature full motion video images rendered on Silicon Graphics machines.

CHAIKUI: just what exactly is the Blub family doing in a garbage dump on the planet Earth? Why do we see them rummaging through mounds of refuse looking for who knows what? Is this their idea of a holiday? No. The only thing they want to do is get off the cursed planet! It's up to the player to rescue the Blub family from their plight. He or she will have to find the objects necessary to repair the Blub's spaceship in the chaotic universe of the dump.

The Dame Was Loaded (Beam Software): a film noir detective story, in the style of American films and crime novels of the 1940s. The game player takes the role of a private detective, and makes decisions as to how the



detective will conduct his investigation. All the scenes are shot from the player's pointof-view.

Dwayne (**Bits**): this game sets a new standard in virtual reality style immersive arcade adventures. Dwayne is an epic battle against the evil SEA Corporation ruler John Ho, in a battle half way around the world to try and avenge his parents' death. Features full cinematic sequences with a cast of 50 actors.

Dead End (Cryo): a driving game using photo-realistic backdrops. You control a car which has to outgun other manic drivers — using searing machine

GAMES



Lost Eden. Below: Rise of the Robots, Below left: Creature Shock. Middle: Kinadom



guns. The game includes real footage from actual US highways, with wild and wacky drivers played by live actors filmed on bluescreen.

Alien Ally (Argonaut

Software): as a planetary surveyor whose spaceship crash lands on a routine mission, you have to find some way of escaping a hostile planet while averting its destruction. There are five stages — two arcade style and three 3D platform stages. There are 170 rooms to explore in this

immense game.

Crime Patrol (American Laser

Games/CapDisc): a detective adventure in the spirit of Mad Dog McCree. You play a private detective in hot pursuit of the bad guys.

FORTHCOMING RELEASES

Flashback STBA Kingdom: The Far Reaches (DV) \$49.98

Peter Gabriel: Xplora (DV) \$59.98

Compton's Encyclopedia '95 \$149.98

Muzzy (DV) \$39.98

VIDEO CD Six Weeks To A Beautiful Body STBA Baby Boom \$29.98 Carrie \$20 08 Live and Let Die \$29.98 Moonraker \$29.98 Of Mice and Men \$29.98 Overboard \$29,98 The Pink Panther \$29.98

Thunder In Paradise (DV) \$49.98

Thumbelina (DV) STBA Ultimate Noah's Ark STBA Stickybear Family Fun \$TBA

Compton's Encyclopedia'95 (DV) \$149.98

Monty Python: Naughty Bits (DV) \$29.98 Monty Python:Live Without (DV)\$29.98

VIDEO CD

Roadhouse \$29.98 Robocon 2 \$29.98 Star Trek: Generations \$29.98 The Spy Who Loved Me \$29.98 Thunderball \$29.98







CLASSIC



rt House Productions has teamed up with British software company OmniMedia to release a series of classic films on Video CD in the UK. The first four films will be

Ine first four lims will be distributed through VCI Software. They are: "One Deadly Summer", "The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith", "The Navigator", and "La Grande Illusion", "These classic movies are brought to life by Video CD," says Leslie Kent, OmniMedia's managing directions of the summer of the

tor. "VHS tape degrades rapidly, while Video CD offers permanent storage. Thoroughbred films such as these are watched repeatedly, making Video CD the ideal format."

"One Deadly Summer" features Isabel Adjani in her first starring role, as an unsettlingly provocative 19-year old. She arrives in a small French village and sets the local manhood afire with lust and rumour. But soon we discover she's our for revenge. "The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith", written by "Schindler's List" author Thomas Kenneally, is the true

Thomas Kenneally, is the true story of Jimmie Blacksmith, the Aborigine member of a small Australian farming community who is pushed into violence by racism.

"The Navigator" is an epic tale of a plague-threatened Middle Ages village and its quest for redemption, which results in an unexpected encounter with the modern world. "La Grande Illusion" is lean Repoir's classic.

modern world. "La Grande Illusion" is Jean Renoir's classic anti-war comedy/drama. It was thought to have been completely destroyed until a print was found in Munich in 1945. It has now been preserved forever in Video CD's digital format. For further information, please call VCI Distribution on 011 44

1923 816511



BAD GOLF MADE EASIER Opening Credits Theory Of Sad Golf The Vardon Tip

POLYGRAM COLLECTION

olyGram has launched its own Video CD catalogue in Europe and its first release is the smash hit film "Four Weddings and A Funeral", starring Hugh Grant and Andie MacDowell. Other titles in the catalogue include Leslie Nielsen's "Bad Golf Made Easier" and the best-selling sex education title, "Making Lowe". PolyGram has already licenced a number of titles to Philips Media for release on Video CD (such as British films "The Crying Game", "The Krays" and Pink Floyd's "The Wall") but this is the first time it has produced its own catalogue of Video CD product.

Mike Bridger, PolyGram Video's director of commercial operations, says: "The timing is absolutely right for us to come into the market directly. The Video CD market is gaining momentum and demand for quality products is growing."

For further information call 011 44 181 910 5000



CDi expansion card for PCs

International Interactive Media (I2m) has introduced an expansion card for Apple Macs and PCs fitted with a double speed CD-ROM drive that will allow them to play back all CDi tittles. The MediaPlayback Professional displays video directly onto the com-

The MediaPlayback Professional displays video directly onto the computer's VGA monitor using an on-board video overlay solution. It will play interactive CDI titles as well as linear Digital Video, Video CD and MPEG 1 Real Time files at 30 frames per second using full motion MPEG video. Around 300 existing CDI titles can be viewed directly on the computer's monitor or through an external RGB, NTSC or PAL monitor or television set.

television set. For further details, contact International Interactive Media on 617 290 5964 or fax 617 890 6682.







SADE ALBUM ON VIDEO CD

ritish software company OmniMedia is developing an interactive version of its Video CD title "Sade: Life Promise Love Pride" for Sony Music. The Sade album has already been released as a linear Video CD in the UK, but now OmniMedia is developing a system to bring CD-ROM style interactivity to the title. OmniMedia has branded the system Video CD Plus. In effect, it overlays the existing MPEG video with interactive icons that lead to boxes containing additional information about the singer. The demo interactive

Sade disc will contain eight White Book MPEG videos, some Red Book audio tracks (which will play on an ordinary CD player), 6,000 words of text, 40 still photographs and a quiz. It will be CDi and PC compatible, and has cost around £45,000 (\$72,000) to develop. OmniMedia director Allen McCaskill says: "The demo will be finished on May 8 and we will then show it to Sony. If they like it, we hope to release the disc in September." OmniMedia is also working on another secret project for PMI, but details remain under wraps at this stage.







K, so you've seen "The Untouchables" and you fancy yourself as Al Capone: the smart suits, the shiny cars and those sharp shooters. If anyone gets on your nerves, you'll just send the boys round and they'll deal with the problem. No more being Mr Nice Guy.

What we have here is a world of gangsters, babes and guns. A perfect combination for a shoot-'em-up.

Throw in full motion video, a murderous plot and plenty of action, and you've got a more modern version of "Mad Dog McCree".

That's no surprise, really, as "Who Shot Johnny Rock" was originally developed by American Laser Games, the company behind "Mad Dog McCree". Now "Johnny Rock", like its predecessor, is being converted to the CDi format by CapDisc. And the good news is that it, too,

preVIEW





CDi Magazine 9

preVIEW

will be compatible with the Peacekeeper gun. So if you enjoyed zapping the cowboys in "Mad Dog", you'll love this one too.

The basic story line shouldn't tax your brain too much, Johnny Rock, a well known local singer, has been murdered. His girlfriend, Red, is out to seek revenge and as the police have closed the case, she is forced to hire a private eye. That's where you, the player, come in. You have to decide whether you should take the case - a decision you may live to regret. Red uses all her charms of persuasion to get you to help her out. "I want you to nail the rat that did this," she drawls, "I want you to put him away until he's as old and grey as the concrete in his cell. I can make sure it will be worth your time." I bet!

But you know she's trouble from the minute she walks in the door. It's not long before the guns start shooting and you're fighting to save your own life. There are gangsters at the door, gangsters at the window, gangsters in the elevator. Blink and you are dead.

Before you start the game, there are three difficulty levels to choose from: easy, medium and hard. I took the easy route to begin with. You can either play with the standard

remote or, if you've got it, the Peacekeeper gun. To recommend the gun. Your neighbours will soon be calling the police as you dive around your living room shouting "Die, you sonofabitch!" and blasting away at the TV. This is not a game for the kind hearted. But it is fim.

As ever, the disc is programmed to do some clever things. So just when you think you've discovered from which direction a particular gangster will take a shot at you, everything will change. That innocent looking lady with the flowers will suddenly turn into a serial killer. And never, never trust a man with a violin case!

The key to the murder is, apparently, in Johnny's safe. Part of your task is to collect the numbers that will open the combination. You have 400 bullets and \$2000 to start with. Each time you fire, you lose a bullet. If you are hit, the amount of money displayed on screen will fall. When you run out of dollars, you're dead.

As ever, the quality of the Digital Video is way ahead of other games systems, although we only had a preproduction disc to play with. Sure, the characters and dialogue may be a little corny ("Johnny Rock" certainly won't win any Oscars), but who cares. You'll get a ridiculous sense of satisfaction every time you zap one

of the bad guys. Don't forget, the surgeon is always on hand if you mess up but he's not the most sympathetic of characters! You can only survive so many hits before the undertaker comes to take you away.

"Mad Dog McCree" kept us entertained for hours, and "Who Shot Johnny Rock?" looks like it should be just as good. CDi handles full motion video better than any other system I know, bringing arcade-style quality and action into the home.



Produced by CapDisc Cost: TBA Available: June/July









One of the most playable racing games of all time, Micro Machines, revs up for CDi. ANDY STOUT takes the wheel

magine the scene: a software company's brainstorming session to come up with ideas for a new computer game. All the normal stuff occurs. RPGs are discussed, bear-'em-ups toyed with, platform games dissected under a microsocope. Nothing seems particularly exciting, so everyone in the meeting wanders off to the bar.

After the fifth bottle of Budweiser, three people are having a coaster tossing competition, two are beating up the juke box and another two have discovered they're both deeply in love with each other.

Suddenly, someone shouts "Eureka!" (actually it sounds like "Thurrppkt") and starts scribbling on the back of an envelope.

Micro Machines just has to have been created like that: either in a moment of drunken inspiration or with the judicious use of recreational substances that we really can't talk about in a magazine like this. The result is a real cracker of a game.

The concept is ludicrously simple: an overhead racing game around household objects. Miniature cars race around pool tables, through marmalade, around cornflakes and in bathtubs. If there is a place to race, Micro Machines are there.

Marlboro!

THE BREAKFAST BENDS

This gives the game added humour value. The courses really have character, and trying to explain to your friends that the reason you are so annoyed is because you crashed out by colliding with an open exercise book and fell off the edge of a desk isn't the easiest thing in the world to do. But not only is it amusing, it's also one of the most ridiculously playable games ever foisted on the market.

It's definitely a classic. Pick up the controller and you're away. But if you're going to be any good at it, you will have to learn all the turns and hazards of the various courses.

There are one and two player options. The one player game is probably the best, where you challenge the other computer-controlled drivers in different vehicles over a



variety of courses. Be warned, some of these - particularly the Formula 1 courses set around the pool

tables - are very difficult. There is a head-to-head option

where you lose lives if your opponent gets a screen length ahead of you around the course. The critical thing to remem-

ber is that each vehicle handles differently. The sportscars lose the back end outrageously and skid out of control on tight bends. The warriors have lousy acceleration, but once they get going, probably reach something close to Warp Factor 10. For every mode of transport involved, you need to adopt a slightly different driving style.

This game was a huge hit when it first came out. Just so it doesn't rest on its laurels, the CDi version will have specially enhanced features. There will be 48 full motion video animated race sequences that morph into actual gameplay; in-game graphics improved to support 256 colours; and digital CD music enhanced from the classic MegaDrive themes. Now if that doesn't get you salivating, then you've got no soul.

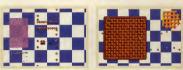
Produced by Codemasters Available: September Cost: TBA

preview























THE FAR REACHES

PATRICK BATEMAN casts his eye over the latest role-playing game from the company that brought us Mad Dog McCree on CDi

ingdom's developer is US company CapDisc, which will be familiar to most CDi games fans from its work on the stupendous "Mad Dog McCree". This time CapDisc has turned its sights to producing the ultimate role-playing fantasy/adventure experience.

The story — and let's face it, any RPG worth its salt can't afford not to have an extended piece of sub-Tolkien nonsense to set the scene — concerns the, er, Lost Kingdom. Well, it's not really lost. It's just that the old magic has gone — literally.

The game opens with a furious battle between the armies of good and evil and we see the last of the magical Argent kings die after taking a lightning bolt in the chest. The originator of the bolt is the evil "Twisted" Torlock, an all round bad guy who, along with his henchman the Plague Magician, has overthrown the established order to create a reign of chaos

Naturally, there is only one hope. That's you, the 22nd young apprentice to work for the wizard Delan —

all the others met grisly ends. Armed only with a sense of civic pride, a pleasant demeanour and a fistful of magical scrolls, you must travel the Kingdom in search of the five relics that make up the sacred Amulet of Mobus. Piece them together and Torlock and his gang are history. But all manner of lethal obstacles appear in your path from Crystal Tigers to nasty flesheating rats.

I admit that I groaned when I first booted up this disc. Not because of the hackneyed fantasy trimmings, but because it looked like any other 100 per cent MPEG video "interactive". Thankfully "Kingdom — The Far Reaches" is a cut above those quasi-games.

Instead of aimlessly hitting the action button every time the MPEG stream pauses, "Kingdom" makes you use your brain before you come to a decision. You won't need a philosophy degree, but knowing when to run and when to make a stand, when to use a spell and, more importantly, what spell to use, add up to a much more satisfying gaming experience.

When you begin the Quest you have just three shots of the "Vision Spell" (makes blind beggars see, roots out hidden fairies) to help you on your way. Each time you return to Delan's mansion, though, he'll set you up with another set of scrolls. Along with the magical items dotted

around the landscape you soon build up a pretty hefty magical inventory.

When you visit locations you will always be greeted by an animated video sequence. This tends to feature somebody either trying to help you or kill you. After a few seconds the animation pauses and your inventory bar and cursor appear on screen. You control what happens next by selecting a spell or item or choosing a hot spot on the screen, such as a path out of the forest. But your energy is constantly heading south, so time is of the essence.

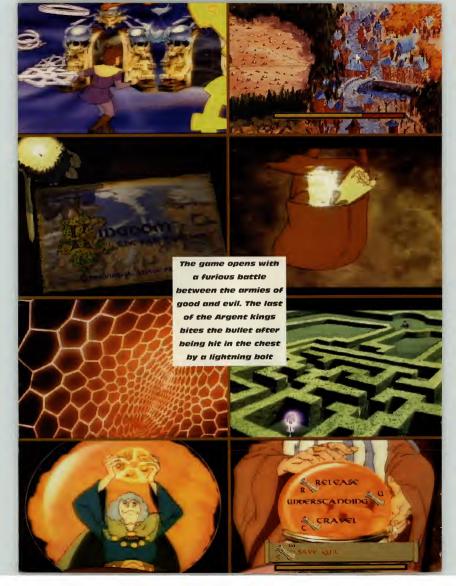
Although there are only 30 minues of video on the disc, the programmers have cleverly stretched this out by assigning multiple audio tracks to each sequence. So when you go back to a location you've visited before, the video may be the same, but the dialogue will reflect the fact that events have moved on. The effect works well, giving the impression that this is a *buse* game.

To be fair, it is pretty mammoth. CapDisc claims that there are over 300 locations — many with a variety of soundtracks — spread across 40 oversized maps. That makes this a CDi game that could last the distance, and the Save Game feature should also take a lot of the pain and frustration out of the journey.

A full review will follow in our next issue, but the omens are looking pretty damned good. Meanwhile, I've got to work out how to get past those pesky Mist Trolls that patrol the peat bogs...

2

Produced by Virtual Image Productions/CapDisc Cost: TBA Available: May



LOST EDEN



ANDY CLOUGH delves into the world of Lost Eden, the strategy/adventure game being developed for CDi by Virgin Interactive Entertainment and French software house Cryo Interactive

ar is raging. Man battles against an army of giant dinosaurs, led by the terrifying Moorkus Rex, who has only one aim: to destroy the human race and rule over the whole planet.

Only one town holds our against the dinosaur attacks. It is called the Citadel. For centuries, this fantastic fortification has protected the Priam dynasty against Moorkus Rex's legions of tyrannosaurs. But there is a problem: the secret of how to build the Citadel died with its creator, Priam the Builder. Now Adam, son of Priam the Conqueror who fought brilliantly against Moorkus Rex's forces, must try and rediscover how to build more citadels to

protect the humans from the dinosaur attacks.

While the tyrannosaurs are violent, blood-thirsty warriors, the non-violent vegetarian dinosaurs are used as slaves by the humans. Adam secretly forms a friendship with Dina, his own dinosaur slave. She tells Adam about the suffering of her own kind: thousands of them die under the voke of humans and Moorkus Rex's cruelty. Once the dinosaurs and humans were equal, but no more.

One night Adam has a dream. In his dream, Dina calls to him, urging him to follow her. Adam agrees. Dina leads him through a series of underground passages, and for the first time in his life, Adam is outside the Citadel. He is taken to see Dina's grandfather, Thoo, who is very ill. But Thoo lets Adam in on a secret: Priam the Builder was a close friend of Thaa, Thoo's grandfather. Thaa worked on the Citadel and knew all the secrets of construction. Adam must rediscover those secrets so new citadels can be built.

Unfortunately, there is one small snag. Priam the Builder's son, Priam the Revisionist, exterminated all the builders who worked

on the original Citadel and had Thaa imprisoned in an underground crypt. The crypt

has never been reopened since, and the techniques of construction have been forgotten.

Your task in the game is to take on the role of Adam and rediscover how the Citadel was built. Only then will the nans be able to defeat Moorkus Rex. You visit

humans be able to defeat the army of Moorkus Rex. You visit various locations around the world of Eden, travelling from place to place by plodding brontosaur caravan or with the help of a flock of prerodactyls. As you travel through the deserts, mountains and forests in each area, you must persuade the herbivores of your good intentions so they will help you build a citadel. Once man and herbivore are

protected against Moorkus Rex and his forces, the game enters its second phase leading to the final conflict with Moorkus himself. That, in a rather large nutshell, is

That, in a rather large nutshell, is the plot. Lost Eden has been developed by the French software compay Cryo and has just been released on CD-ROM. It is now being con-







verted to CDi for release later this year. Although no CDi disc of the game is yet available, find out more about how it has been put together in our interview with Cryo (p. 26).

Produced by Cryo Interactive/Virgin Interactive Entertainment Cost: TBA Available: September











THUNDER IN PARADISE

ltogether now, "Thun-DER, THUN-der in Paraaaaaaaatzzzeee!" You'll soon be singing along to the opening theme tune of this Z-grade "action adventure" TV series, but after a while it will drive you nuts.

interactive TV debut

Philips has decided that this series, which stars Terry "Hulk" Hogan, Chris Lemmon and a large speedboat called Thunder, would make a wonderful piece of interactive television. Welcome to Thunder in Paradise Interactive.

Boot up the disc and you're presented with three options: the TV show only, Interactive TV or Game Only. Click on TV Show and you can watch an entire episode of the series without any interaction whatsoever - once you've taken out the first disc and replaced it with the linear Video CD disc.

But it's the interactive TV option that Philips is most keen to promote. You play the part of Zack, a teenage whizzkid who helps the ex-Navy SEALS Hogan and Lemmon track down a genetically-created soldier — The M.a.j.o.r. — who has run amok and kidnapped a five year old girl, Jessica, who plays Hogan's adopted daughter.

Footage from the TV episode is then spliced with interactive segments where Zack — that's you, remember — has to do some kind of neural link-up and blast everything in sight. This wanton destruction either takes place on the boat, where you control an on-screen crosshair to defend your four flanks, or on land, where an on-screen crosshair is superimposed onto point-of-view footage while bad guy sprites leap out of various nooks and crannies.

The developers, Mass Media, claim that the gameplay is a cut above that offered by other DV shoot-'em-ups like Lethal Enforcers or Mad Dog McCree. "In our game, the player can actually be running through the environment," says the game's director Robbie Weaver. "We have the ability with CDI to stop a stream of video footage and put the bad guys up. You feel that you are actually inside there."

That's true — to a point. The stalking, first-person perspective does ramp up the feeling of being immersed in the action. And the use of sprites rather than real actors for the baddies allows more flexibility to randomise the gameplay and speediers shot detection. (The small but perceptible lag in games like Mad Dog McCree can become very tiresome.) But it also means you know that

when the footage is moving it is non-interactive, and that when it freezes you'd better start shooting. It's a bit like playing musical chairs or pass-the-parcel, a stop-start experience that is fun initially but which soon succumbs to the law of diminishing returns.

Which is a shame, because the programmers have gone to great lengths to keep the player visually stimulated. There is stacks of Robocop-style on-screen data during the POV sequences, while the menu screens rank with the best there is in terms of snazzy zoom-in graphics and full-screen, full-motion fun.

Whether or not you should buy Thunder in Paradise Interactive depends entirely on whether or not you have the Peacekeeper light gun to go with it. If you have, then there's plenty of fun to be had, especially if you play with a group of friends. Don't bother watching the full TV episode, though, unless you are a card-carrying masochist — it is so abysmal it makes Baywatch look like Dostovevsky.

If you haven't got the gun, and don't intend to buy one, then avoid this game like the plague. Joypad controlled on-screen cursors are the video game equivalent of having your wisdom teeth pulled out — experiencing it once in a lifetime is one time too many.

RATINGS Graphics: 90% Sound: 90% Interactivity: 77% 1000 cm. Overall: 79% G033 300.00 becimbe una 003 JUN9

WORLD OF WONDERS



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A bleary-eved ANDY STOUT burns the midnight oil as he struggles with puzzle after puzzle in the simply fiendish, but truly wonderful. Merlin's Apprentice





Play

RENT

r's two in the morning and you're in a quandary. Did that test tube gurgle before or after that jar rattled? Your memory has gone a blank, your eyelids need matchsticks to hold them open, and in a fit of desperation you go for the test tube. It shatters and you are back at the beginning again. Time for that third can of Jolt Cola.

Merlin's Apprentice is simply fiendish - a game concocted by sadists who are out to ruin your life, destroy your brain and generally make sure you can't look at your CDi player again without wincing. It's also damn good fun.

The idea is simple. To become an

apprentice to the aforementioned Merlin you have to find him while three demons toss loads of obstacles in your path. These obstacles are puzzles, each of which has to be solved before you can inch that tiny bit closer to vour goal.

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Well, the puzzles come in different categories, the skill levels of which can be individually adjusted, and even if vou're a complete master of such things, you'll find at least one cate-

> gory which even on the beginner level you can't do for love nor money. That's why you end up gnashing your teeth at two in the morning.

Tour

It is, quite simply, a truly wonderful game. The puzzles are backed up with superbly evocative animations and cut screens, hor-



Credit

ribly taunting demons and lovingly atmospheric music. It's aimed at kids, but when it comes down to it, why should they have all the fun?

Produced by Philips *FunHouse*

RATINGS

Graphics: 91%

Sound: 90%

Interactivity: 89%

Overall: 90%

3053: 549.93

താഭ മായ



Greek mythology forms the basis of this new puzzle game from Philips *FunHouse*. If you can escape from the labyrinth, your life will be spared

n a time of splendour and glory for ancient Greece, its people looked to the heavens and, in the mystery of the stars, hoped to foresee what the future might bring.

But you do not look to the sky for answers, for, at dawn, you are to be put to death for stealing from the Temple of Hera. Yet, in that very moment, Lord Zeus, King of all Gods, intervenes.

"Hear now and obey the words of Zeus, Lord of Mount Olympus and King of all Gods. I know you to be a clever thief, too clever to be captured by mere mortals. Yet, when you chose to steal from the Temple of Hera, Queen of the Gods, it was she who plotted your arrest. But fear not the wrath of Zeus. My wife and I disagree in many matters.

She cursed my son King Minos with the birth of a hideous creature. One so foul that I commanded Daedulus to construct a labyrinth to be its home. A labyrinth without any hope of escape. Yet Hera has dared to defy me again, and has shrouded in magic a secret passageway leading to freedom. I have spared your mortal soul for a single purpose. Use your worldly wiles to escape from my labyrinth of Crete.

Betray Hera in this manner, and I will grant you your freedom and a kingdom to command. Fail me, and I shall allow my grandson to feast upon your flesh! Act with wisdom and you shall survive."

So begins Labyrinth of Crete, a challenging tale of Greek mythology from Philips *FunHouse*, Great music and animation are promised to draw you into this mystical journey to appease the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece, Each room in the labyrinth offers a unique challenge, and when that challenge is solved, another room is revealed. Your task is to collect the gifts from the Gods and heed their sage counsel. There are many ways to escape from the dreaded labyrinth of Crete. But beware the wrath of Zeus and Hera — do not anger them unduly. or you will not live to enjoy your freedom. Act with wisdom, and you will survive.

Labyrinth of Crete is due for release on CDi in October. We have yet to see anything on a disc, but rest assured, as soon as we do, we will bring you our verdict.

Produced by Philips *FunHouse* Cost: TBA Available: October







CDi Magazine 23





Cryo Interactive's dinosaur epic Lost Eden has just shipped on the PC and will be out soon on CDI. ANDY STOUTOSAURUS talks to the team behind the game's development

s soon as you walk into the offices of Cryo Interactive you know that you are in a French company. The two floors they occupy of a converted Parisian tenement building are filled with a mixture of hi-tech and cigarette smoke; banks of PCs and overflowing ashtrays.

But it's the brief glimpses of the computer screens that catch your eye as you walk through the building that reveal the true talent that lies within. The French, as always, have style. Frighteningly realistic back-drops compete with beautifully, lovingly rendered animation sequences for your attention. Nowhere else in the world will you probably see such a concentration of programming alchemy brought to life with such skill and style.

France has spawned some of the leading graphics producers over the last couple of years, including Infogrames (the company responsible for Kether and Chaos Control on CDi) and now Cryo. With the shipping of Lost Eden on CD-ROM and its planned release on CDi, Cryo has raised the quality stakes once again.

Lost Eden is stunning, a primordial epic of man and dinosaur that features some of the most gorgeous MPEG sequences yet put on a disc. Pteranadons soar majestically over mountain lakes, brontosaurs lumber clumsily through swamps and tyrannosaurs stalk menacingly through the prehistoric landscape. It's detailed, it's beautiful and with the addition of music that wouldn't be out of place on a successful ambient





Left: Cryo technical director Remi Herbulot

at Cryo's Paris office (pictured above).

next important medium but Infogrames at that time was not particularly interested in it. Because of that, we thought the best thing to do was to link up with another company which was involved in another media such as music."

The best contact the couple had at that time was with Jean Martial Le Franc, who was managing the French arm of Virgin Games. The three met and after a couple of meetings set up Cryo Interactive, with Le Franc becoming the financial director.

When we started our first game was Dune, and for one year that was the only game," says Herbulot. "Our second game was Megarace and that was very important as it was the first game we developed as a company that wasn't from Virgin. It was better for us to work for several publishers. Megarace was a game on which the visuals were very important. It's not so good as a pure game - there are better racing games and car simulations - but what we did was try and simulate a TV show. So we concentrated a lot on the full video and that's why it's also been very successful. It's very spectacular, one of the games you can show to your friends and they see how right you were to buy this expensive CD-ROM."



by far the most important aspect, with just a little bit of strategy. I want people to play Lost Eden and take from it some souvenir of remembrance, in the same way that you remember a good film. When

you watch a film, you are immersed in the story for two hours and

> you are living with someone else on the screen. I'd like to give the player the same feeling."

The same thread runs through any conversation you have with Cryo; the

feeling that the company is not just creating games but trying to involve the player in an artificial universe, trying to make the player forget that he's sitting in front of a computer or TV screen. But this has led to one of the main criticisms of Lost Eden, that it is rather lacking in the gameolay department.

"We've done what we wanted to do," says Herbulot. "What I like when I see people play Lost Eden is that the game appeals to people that are not that interested in computer games. I think this kind of game can attract a wide audience but probably the hardcore game player will find it too simple. If you want to spend 50 to 100 hours playing a game, you may be disappointed, but if you want to spend a couple of days playing it and getting into the story, you will like this game. I think Lost Eden is a good way of convincing people to play games on computers.

"Also, I've always wanted to create a game that is very simple to get into at the beginning so people are not put off."

Another criticism levelled at Lost Eden is that it's simply jumped on the dinosaur bandwagon created by Stephen Spielberg's blockbuster film Jurassic Park. Is Cryo simply cashing in on Dinomania?

"The dinosaur idea was developed

That concentration on the graphical nature of Cryo's games has certainly paid dividends with Lost Eden. But, as we all know, there is more to games than pretty pictures. Cryo's experience of the strategy/adventure environment they gained from Dune was reworked, rebalanced and tweaked for Lost Eden to try and produce a scenario that was more immersive.

"What we tried with Dune was to create a mixture between adventure and strategy so there was a little bit of each. But the most important element to me is the adventure. The first goal was to tell a story, to get the player caught up in the atmosphere of the game.

"When we started Lost Eden, we used Dune as a basis: we removed everything that was not so good and kept the good things and developed them further to make an even better game. So in Lost Eden adventure is

before we even knew about Jurassic Park," is Herbulor's practised and slightly weary reply. "Even before that film more and more people were talking about dinosaurs and it seemed to be good material because dinosaurs are like some kind of dream. They are not real now, but we know they existed in the past. You never see them except as drawings or skeletons.

"I don't know how exactly we came up with the idea, but we were talking about doing another game after Dune and probably one of us talked about dinosaurs and we thought it would be a good idea. The first idea was to use a book by Harry Harrison called 'West Of Eden'. I'd read the book but I didn't like the idea of basing the game on it much. In the book, dinosaurs are simply big lizards, just human size, so we preferred to create an original story. We decided it would be more interesting to give the dinosaurs some intelligence."

There is another thread to Cryo's general gameplan; the attention to detail in the basic plotline and the desire to create a decent universe to set the games in. A game is not going to suck the player into its own little world if it's bland, one-dimensional and full of inconsistencies.

"The basic storyline is that you have humans and dinosaurs on Earth and you are living in a very strong citadel. Very few people know that once there were many of these citadels on Earth and dinosaurs and humans were able to stand together against the tyrannosaur. The challenge is to find the secret of why there is only one citadel left and how you can build another one. So you have to find the secret and go round the world to meet other humans and dinosaurs and work together with them."

All this is accomplished with indepth characterisation and, as we said before, incredible graphics. Lost Eden took two years to develop and most of that time was spent in trying to perfect the graphics. The









"CDI MPEG video
is so good there is
no comparison
between that and what
we have on PCs"

techniques and technology available constantly evolved, meaning that Cryo had to rework the graphics several times. Herbulot reckons that if they could do it all one more time, the results would be even better, but you have to stop somewhere.

However, some improvements will be incorporated into the CDi version, which many at Cryo believe will be the best yet. The CDi version is nearly completed, with just music, sound and some continuity between MPEG sequences and the gameplay





environment to be finished off (just two weeks' work, apparently). The biggest obstacle Cryo came up against in converting the game from CD-ROM to CDi was having to upgrade all the graphics.

"The resolution is so different between the CDi and PC," Herbulot explains. "CDi MPEG video is so good there is no comparison between that and what we have on PCs. MPEG has 16 million colours. You can see the difference. And, of course, the sound is much better on CDi."

Herbulot is quietly impressed with CDi as a platform, mainly due to its MPEG capabilities. It has its problems, mainly the lack of sprites that can be generated at one time and the slow access speed of the CD drive, but beyond that Cryo didn't come across any major difficulties. But does Herbulot think the syrem can still succeed as a games platform in a market bracing itself for the imminent launch of the Sega Saturn and Sony PlayStation?

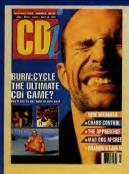
"Maybe. The main drawback is that you can see all the other platforms, such as Saturn and PSX, evolving. The problem with CDi is that the core of the hardware is still 16 bit, but if Philips can evolve CDi further and keep it backwards compatible with existing software, it might work. If the system remains exactly as it is, then it will be struggling hard in one or two years' time." But that has not dampened Cryo's enthusiasm for the CDi platform. After Lost Eden, there will be at least another two CDi projects.

"We are doing a conversion of a coin-op game called Dead End which is a driving and shooting game that will use MPEG sequences. We also have another title called Man Before Man which is not really a game, more of an educational software title on the origin of man. We've tried to do this software with the same approach that we use for games."

What odds that this, too, will look spectacular?

BACK ISSUES

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James Bond, Robocop and Captain Kirk are among the stars of this month's batch of Video CD releases, BEN SOUTHWELL picks the winners and losers



BABY BOOM

his surprising hit swept across the country perfectly captur-ing the mood of the Eighties and creating a television series in its wake.

Diane Keaton plays a top executive living the yuppie life to the max when she "inherits" a baby. At first she insists this is just a minor inconvenience and the baby will make no difference to her lifestyle. Parents out there will know this is impossible. Baby makes a BIG difference and a great deal of comedy follows as Keaton realises the price she must pay. During the course of the film she comes to see how false many of her yuppie values are compared to the needs of a baby and family life.

Okay, so in many ways it's a rather predictable story, but "Baby Boom" is enjoyable nonetheless. Keaton is perfect as a flustered executive denying her maternal instincts, and you just can't help liking this attack on all those yuppie mores we held so dear.

Rating: AAA Out: May









life of corporate America. So when I heard there was to be a sequel, and one of the writers was to be Frank Miller (the man who re-invented Batman so stumingly in the comic book "The Dark Knight Returns") I was, of course, VERY interested. But "Robocop 2" is a huge disappointment. Director Irvin Kershner has sone of the sly excess of Paul Verhoeven (who directed the original as well as the outrageous "Basic Instinct" and over-the-top "Total Recall") and he's been given a script whithoit is like a shoot-em-up without a control pad.

If you like noise and non-stop shooting and explosions, then this is for you as Robocop battles Robocop 2, an evil cyborg with the brain of a drug addicted criminal. But after about ten minutes I wanted something else: a rest, a bit of humour, anything. Unfortunately, there isn't anything, although it has to be said that "Robocop 2" was popular enough to create a third film and a television series.

Rating: 12 12 Out: June

STAR TREK: GENERATIONS

K, so I know it came in for some criticism on its cinema release, but there are more than enough reasons why "Generations" is still a must for all Trekkers.

For a start, it's the first big screen outing for all the "Next Generation" regulars and it's great to see them in action. Then there's the added bonus of the last (?) appearance of Captain Kirk (William Shather enjoying himself immensely). It has a great plot with Malcolm McDowell in fine form as an utterly mad villain travelling through space and time and prepared to destroy planets in order to return to a sort a Nirvana or Heaven. "Generations" also features a totally stunning crash scene that is worth the price of the disc on its own. To tell you any more would be to give the game away.

Admittedly, the film gets bogged down trying to give each member of the crew five minutes of "quality emotion", which not only holds up the plot, but is downright embarrassing at times. Patrick Stewart is a fine actor, but even he can't make some of Captain Picard's lines credible and Datas emotion chip is a BIG mistake.

In all, it's a typically brave and ambitious "Star Trek" film that doesn't quite hit the bullseye but offers enough to keep you entertained and promises great things for future "Next Generation" films.

Rating: ಬಿಬಿಬಿ Out: June



THE SPY WHO LOVED ME

he Spy Who Loved Me" is easily the best of the Roger Moore Bond films. From the utterly stunning pre-titles (a ski jump over a sheer cliff) to a supertanker that literally swallows submarines. It's action and adventure all the way through. This time Bond has to collaborate with a beautiful Russian spy (Barbara Bach, the best Bond heroine in years) to take on rich, evil shipping magnate Stromberg, who has an impressive and convoluted plan to

destroy the world and create his own utopia. In effect, "The Spy Who Loved Me" is little more than a compilation of the best bits of previous Bonds, but it's the way it does it that makes it so appealing. Everything is there to excess. They even built a brand

new stage at Pinewood Studios in England for the interior of the supertaken. Stromberg's HO looks like something from a science fiction film and doubles as an underwater city. Bond's car is back, a Lotus Esprit with optional extras your't find at your



disappointing.

omeone once worked out that about half the population of the world has seen a James Bond film at some time or other. Well, if CDi has anything to do with it, that number can only increase with this latest slate of releases! "Thunderball" came out at the height of Bond-mania. "Goldfinger" had been phenomenally successful and the world was going mad for Sean Connery's Bond. Connery is, of course, as excellent as ever. This time he has to recover two atomic bombs that arch rivals SPECTRE have stolen to hold the world to ransom. If the plot seems a little familiar, it may be because this film was remade as "Never Say Never Again" 18 years later. Although it sticks fairly closely to the original book and won an Oscar for its special effects (the only Bond to win one for anything other than the title song), "Thunderball" seems slow today. The underwater finale is particularly



MOVIE Watch



local dealer, It can even go underwater! Stromberg has two wonderful sidekicks. the menacing metal toothed giant "Jaws" and Naomi, a beautiful helicopter pilot who'll wink at you seductively before trying to blow you off the face of the earth. Even the theme

tune is one of the best - Carly Simon singing Nobody Does It Better.

"The Spy Who Loved Me" is the ultimate aadaet-ridden Bond and it's one of my favourites of the series.

Rating: के के के के Out: June



However, there's still plenty of Bond's 1960s cutting edge: a personal rocket pack, that great Aston Martin, and Largo's boat, the Disco Volante - a sort of blueprint for today's hydrofoils.

Rating: 🏖 🏗 🕏 Out: June



MOONRAKER

MOONRAKER

I you sak me, "Moorraker" is easily the worst of the Bond movies. A slow procession of set places cashing in on the space boom created by "Star Wars," "Close Encounters" and "Star Trek" but without any of the excitement, Lant watch it without remembering MAD's spoof comic version "Moneyraker". This time Bond is on the trail of a stolen space shuttle. The robbery itself is audacious and impressive, kick starting the movie in the best of Bond traditions as the shuttle is literally flown of the back of a Boeing 747 in mild air. All very well and good, I hear you say, but the rest of the plot (madman trying to destroy the world, again) fails to make anything interesting out of this stylish opening. Instead, it's a re-run of old gags and set

pleces.
"Jaws", so excellent in "The Spy Who Loved Me", is brought back (complete with girlfriend no less), but everything is played for laughs rather than spectacle. Even the stunning Brazilian scenery fails to

impress. Roger Moore is definitely going through the motions and Lois Chiles is given one of the most thankless Bond heroine parts ever created (yes, she's a NASA rocket scientist or something like it). The special effects are as good as you'll see, but the story isn't. Bond in space could have been a winner, instead it's Bond by numbers, with predictable results. What a shame that it's the last film in which Bernard Lee played M

Rating: 🌣 🌣 Out: May



MOVIEwatch



CARRIE

ack in 1976 Stephen King was a relative unknown. "Carrie" was his relative unknown. "Carrie" was his first full length novel and none of his stories had been turned into his stories had been to stories has often been disappointing with the misses way outnumbering the his.

Which makes "Carrie" all the more amazing, It was the first and it remains one of the best. This story of a young gir with telekinetic powers and her terrible revenge on her teenage class mates may not be the greatest horror movie ever made, but it sure is one of the scariest.

Difference of the palma steals from Hitchcock, among others, to lighten the tension bit by bit as things go from normal to bad to worse to... well that would be telling, wouldn't it. He's helped by an excellent cast (Sissy Spacek in the title role and Piper Laurie were both nominated for Oscars and there's also an early appearance by John Travolta) and fine music by Pino Donaggio (a favourite of De Palma's).

If you've seen it already you'll know all about the end. But see it with someone who hasn't, and just watch the result.

Rating: ঐঐঐঐ Out: May

THE PINK PANTHER

lake Edwards has had his share of hits ("10", "Breakfast at Tiffany's") and misses (did anyone see the terrible "The Man Who Loved Women"?) but if you ask me his greatest creation but if you ask me his greatest creation but if you ask me his greatest creation but if you had be not be not because in the bumbling, bungling French detective inspector Clouseau, brought to life by the

wonderful and sadly missed Peter Sellers.
"The Pink Panther" is the film

wonderful and sady missed p
'The Pink Panther' is the film
that gave the world Clouseau
and it's a classic in its own
right. A wonderful, stylish
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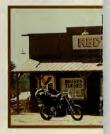
doean't even realise the jewel thief is also his wife's lover. With its Oscar-nominated theme tune by Henry Mancini, and the animated titles that spawned who knows how many cartoon series of THAT parther, this is a must see. And look out for all the sequels, but make sure they're the Sellers originals, not the recent copies.

Rating: ಬಿಬಿಬಿಬಿ Out: May





RATINGS: ☆=poor ☆☆=average ☆☆☆=good ☆☆☆⇒excellent The films featured are from Paramount Pictures, MGM/UA and PolyGram Video All films cost \$29.98



MOVIEwatch



ary Sinise is, of course, best known now as the actor who (digitally and completely credibly) lost his legs in "Forrest Gump". But B.G. (Before Gump) he was as often behind the lens as he was in front and his remake of the classic John Steinbeck novel "Of Mice and Men" demonstrates an emerging talent. Steinbeck's story could have struck many as an outdated tale of the Depression, but in Sinise's hands it's relevance to the modern world is brought home. The efforts of a young farm worker moving from farm to farm trying to keep his simple friend out of trouble reflect today's issues of homelessness

in a subtle, intelligent way.
The cast and performances are excellent, with acting honours shared almost equally between the always impressive (and somehow all pervasive) John Malkovich as the simple Lennie and the increasingly noteworthy Sinise as his friend George. "Of Mice and Men" is also beautiful to look at, capturing the look and feel of the times like an old photograph. If you want to keep track of one of the emerging talents in Hollywood make sure you give this a look. Gary Sinise is becoming a name to reckon with.

Rating: ☆☆☆ Out: May

ROAD HOUSE

oad House" was directed by Rowdy Herrington and if ever a director's name matched the film they'd made, then this is it, because rowdy is the ONLY way to describe "Road House". Patrick Swayze plays a bouncer (with a NVU Philosophy Major, no less) bried by a local bartinghetable to keep things clean and tidy. There's only one problem, local bad guy Ben Gazzara. The result? A lot of fighting And boy, do I mean a lot. Every other scene has someone trying to outdo Swayze in the kung fix takes and the only rest comes in a fairly gratuitous romance between Swayze and Kelly Lynch. But hey, the whole film's gratuitous (if the surface of the control of the surface of

by an ac-Playlwy playmate).
After "Dirry Dancing", this was one of
Suozyee's few hits before the monster "Ghost".
While it's not a film to stand out on his
acting CV, his moves make him a credible
fighter, though I'm not so sure about the philosophy major. Certainly you don't need any
sort of major to enjoy this. It's rousdy and it's
mindless. It's also a great deal of fun as the
action just keeps coming right at you.







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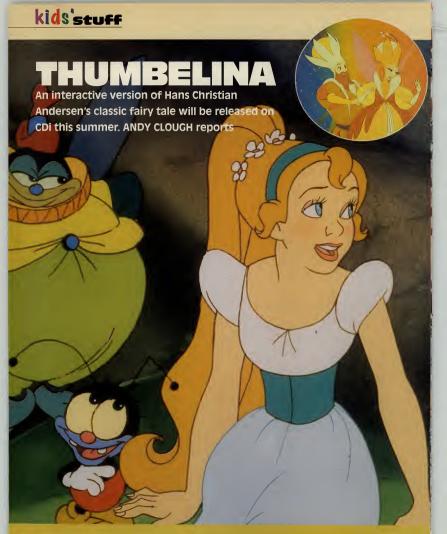
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PC CD-ROM









kids'stuff







puzzles, sing along to the songs, paint scenes from the film or identify different animals. Each picture has illustrations around it to identify if it is interactive. For instance, there is an illustration of paints and brushes for the colouring sections, musical notes for the song sequences or different shapes for the picture puzzles. If you complete a picture puzzle correctly, a video clip from the film will play.

It is these animated sequences that bring the disc alive. Children can see that scene replayed from the film. The Barry Manilow soundtrack adds an extra dimension to the title, which should provide hours of entertainment. It should make a real treat for all the family.

Produced by Epic, published by Spice Multimedia

Rating: 🗸 🗸 🗸 Cost: TBA Available: June









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PC Floppy & CD-ROM





PHILIPS

kids'stuff

With CDi your kids can hear the legend of Pecos Bill, discover how the rhinoceros got his skin, make music and paint pretty pictures





and will enjoy hearing this tale again and again. Ideal for ages three and up.

Produced by American Interactive Media/Rabbit Ears Productions

Rating: VVV Cost: \$19.98 Available: now

PECOS BILL

f it weren't for Bill, there wouldn't have been a Wild West. It would just have been plain old mundane." So begins the colourful retelling of the legend of Pecos Bill — a fearless buckaroo raised by coyores. This disc works in exactly the same way as others in the Storybook

Adventures series. It is narrated by Robin Williams and has music by Ry Cooder to evoke the Texas of crusty cowboys and campfire tales. Once the helpful Wizard has made his introduction, you are free to explore the disc. The text can be brought up on screen, you can play a selection of games or skip back and









CHILDREN'S MUSICAL THEATRE

re your kids budding musicians? If so, then this is the disc for them. Using the CDi player, they can customise their own songs and watch as they are performed by a band of animated musical animals.

are performed by a varied in almined ed musical animals. You put the songs together with a Cajun alligation-recording engineer, a bass-playing dinosaur, a clarinet-nosed allien and lots of other weird and wonderful "recording artists". All you have to do is click to choose the style, lyrics and musical instruments you want, allowing thousands of variations

for each song in pop, country and classical styles. Once in the recording studio, just click on a character and it disappears from the screen and soundtrack, leaving room for you to jam with the animated characters. Who knows what musical talent you might discover!

Ideal for ages three and up.

Produced by Sonic Images
Productions/American Interactive
Media

Rating: Cost: \$29.98 Available: now







kids'stuff





HOW THE RHINOCEROS GOT HIS SKIN

his Rudvard Kipling story of a gluttonous rhinoceros who gets his comeuppance is part of the Storybook Adventures series. It is told by Jack Nicholson, with music by Bobby McFerrin. The Wizard acts as vour host and will introduce you to the disc. Once he has finished, you will enter the Wizard's section. From here vou can select one of the icons: select the book to hear the story; select the Jack in the Box to play games; select the envelope to get Parent's notes; or select the open hand

to exit the disc. As well as listening to the story, you can display the text on screen so kids can see the words as they hear them, select activities related to the story or choose an appropriate age level for the games, In the games section. there are five pictures from the story, as well as the Wizard's Hat. Each picture in the games section represents a different game. These enable children to practice important skills such as recall, visual discrimination. classification and positional concepts. To customise the sophistication of the





games to reflect the age of the child using the disc. all you have to do is position the star over the Age Level area and press an action button. The yellow line tells you which option has been selected. Although this is an early generation CDi title, it has lost none of its appeal since it was first released. The simplicity of using CDi makes it an ideal tool for young kids to play and learn with. Ideal for ages three and up.









kids'stuff











PAINT SCHOOL I AND II

spent one long, fun-filled Sunday afternoon playing the Paint School discs with my four year-old nephew. It was his first introduction to CDi, and you should have seen his eyes light up when he realised he could actually control the colours on the TV screen! The premise of these discs is very simple. What you have, in effect, is an interactive colouring book with CD sound effects. Youngsters can choose to paint scenes from categories such as Pets, Water World, Dino Land and Shape Place. You can choose the type of brush you want to use, zoom in on the picture for more detail, draw circles and boxes and even turn your finished masterpiece into a slider puzzle. There are a staggering 32,000 colours available, so when you get bored of one painting, just change the colours to create a new

one. Paint School II contains additional scenes to paint from such categories as Numerous Numbers and Lots of Letters. Kids can learn the alphabet and recognise numbers while they paint. With a CD-quality soundtrack, this disc is guaranteed to keep kids entertained for hours. Ideal for ages four and up.

Produced by Spinnaker Software Corp/American Interactive Media

Rating: vvvv Cost: \$24.98 each Available: now



reference

Philips has at last developed a Digital Video version of Compton's Encyclopedia. ANDY CLOUGH takes a sneak preview

COMPTON'S INTERACTIVE ENCYCLOPEDIA

nteractive encyclopedias are not new, and the original CDi version of Compton's has been around for a couple of years. Now Philips has decided to update it and has produced a revised, Digital Video version for 1995. It should be pointed out, however, that the new

version will also be available in base-case form for players without the DV cartridge — although obviously you will not be able to access

the new full motion video clips. Both versions will be released this summer. Compton's Updated and Revised is similar in many ways to the original, but has been updated with new graphics, an audio help function, a new time machine and a bookmark feature to make it easier to use The main menu gives you six options to choose from: search, atlas, dictionary, contents, topic

Below: Elvis's mansion. Gracelands, in Photo CD

Above: revised graphics for the main screen

Compton's on CDi gives you access to still Photo

menu. Above right:

CD images and full

motion video clips of historic events



Above: video footage of the Los Angeles earthquake, now captured on CDi. Below right: use the simple search function to find any article

tree and time machine. The simplest way to use the disc is to select "search" and key in the name of the item you wish to find. The CDi player will then do the rest. Alternatively, if you go to the topic tree you will be given a list of

then choose the item within it that you want. Scrolling through the items on the disc is fairly simple, if sometimes a little slow. but the choice of articles, photographs and videos is bewildering. There are 1,622 pages of the 26 volume printed set of the encyclopedia, with 530 new and revised

main-text articles and more than 112,500

Select a category, and



reference



index references. New entries include coverage of the Los Angeles riots and earthquake.

The cleverest part of the disc for me is the atlas. You are presented with a stylised map of the world which allows you to zoom in on any particular country or region. So if you want to find out more about the Congo River in Zaire, for example, just click on Africa and zoom in until you find the river. When you click on it, text and pictures telling you more about the river will appear on screen.

Alternatively, you can use the search function by keying in a particular city and the map will automatically show you that part of the globe. Near.

If you want to travel back through time, or forward into the future, just use the time machine. This has been modified with improved graphics and controls. Just use the cursor to take you back through the centuries and find out what happened all those years ago. Of course, the biggest novelty of the 1995 version of Compton's is the inclusion of full motion video. This improvement is long overdue. Whenever a movie camera appears alongside the text, just click on it to access the relevant video clip. You can now watch such historic events as President Kennedy's assassination, the first Space Shuttle launch or some very early TV programmes in full screen video. Ever since Philips invented the DV

cartridge, this is one particular innovation that Compton's has been crying out for. It is long overdue and makes an already informative title even more entertaining.

Produced by Compton's New Media

Rating:かかか Cost: \$149.98 Available: summer '95

RATINGS:

ポ=poor かか=average かかか=good かかかか=very good かかかか=excellent DV cartridge is optional on this title



hot TIPS

STEVE HAYES and DARREN HEDGES complete their guide to Litil Divil. Part 1 appeared in our February issue and part 2 in March





LEVEL 5

69) Beat the bridge guardian with your stick.

70) Choose the left tunnel. Continue, turn into the first tunnel on your left again and enter the Save Room. Remember the exact position of this room. Leave the Save Room and continue. Go into the Chess Room.

71) In the Chess

Room, you have to blow up the wizard who sits on an eyeball and chases you around the room. The wizard must be blown up 3 times to complete the game. Press button 1 to drop bombs on the wizard's path. You can only use 1 bomb at a time. The bombs detonate after about 5 seconds. If you stand still for too long, the floor sucks you up. If you are sucked up or caught 3 times, you are sent back to the tunnels.

Exit through the opening formed by the chess pieces at the top of the chess

72) Enter the second tunnel on your left and turn left again.
Open the door to the Rodeo Room.

73) In the Rodeo Room, you must keep Mutt on the back of a bucking bull. Therefore, you have to match the bull's movements. Move the joystick down if the bull moves his head down. For the first few moves you can look at the indicator in the upper right corner. To mount the animal, you must place Mutt next to it and press a button. If you win this game. the skeletons on the fence give you a hat and guns. You will find the hat in the inventory.

74) You will notice that some traps light up. If you enter them,



75) Turn back, choose the first tunnel on vour left and then choose the left tunnel again, Enter the Goodies Room, Buy all the objects: watering can (2000): spear with axe (2500): Greek helmet (234): message on pamphlet (908); painting (786) and the grenade (11.111). Leave the Goodies Room and enter the Garden

76) In the Garden Room you must jump across flowers that can eat you up to the exit (follow the bottom left pathway). To jump on to a flower you must face it, press button 1 and

push the loystick in the direction of the flower. Be quick or you will be eaten. You must also avoid the white balls that the daisies spit out, which then bounce on to the flowers. It is best to jump on the first daisy immediately after it spits out a ball. But first you must reach the flowers. Press a button, Mutt takes the watering can you sold in the Goodies Room and waters a flower. The flower grows and you can then jump on to the other flowers.

77) Enter the Bar Room.

78) In the Bar Room you must shoot the barlender and the skeleton gunner with the gun you received in the Rodeo Room. Press button 1 to use your firearm. Shoot the bartender when he has come out from behind the bar. Move to the left of the room to shoot him. Dodde







the bullets that are fired at you and avoid the holes that are cut in the floor. When you have killed the bartender, the skeleton appears. Once you have killed it you must take the kev. You can't leave the room without the kev.

79) Take the gold and enter lighting trap 4. You are transported to maze 3 (trap 5).

80) Enter the Medusa Room.

81) The Medusa throws fireballs at you. You must kill her by reflecting these fireballs with your shield (keep button 1 pressed to hold up the shield). Meanwhile, snakes crawl around on the floor trying to touch you. Go into the

you can leave the Take the gold and jump into lighting trap 6. You are transported

room.

snake mouth so that

to maze 4 (trap 7).

82) Take the gold and continue. Turn left and go to the left again. You see lighting trap 8. Continue and turn left. You see lighting trap 9. Explore the rest of the tunnels and return to lighting trap 8. Jump into the gap to reach maze 5 (trap 10).

83) Explore the south of the maze. You will find lighting trap 11. Enter the Real Dark Room. This resembles the Dark Room of level 4. This time. however, the lights are out. You must use the flashlight, which you got in the spider room, to light up the walkway. Lighting flashes will give you an overview of the labyrinth. The exit is at the top of the playfield (the platform with the 2 half circles).

84) Explore the upper part of the labyrinth. Jump into trap 12 to reach maze 6 (trap 13).

85) Walk to the right and enter the Demon Room

86) Run along the spine runway towards the trampoline. Put Mutt on the red area facing the trampoline and press button 1. Press button 1 again as soon as you reach the trampoline. If your timing is perfect Mutt bounces on it and hits the teeth of the demon. Don't stand still or you will be killed by a snake. You

must hit the teeth 4 times to win

87) Jump into trap 15 to enter maze 7 (trap 16).

88) Explore the maze and enter the Arena.

89) Beat the green swordsman using your spear with axe. You can jab straight out (press a button and push the joystick to the right), swipe from the side (press a button and push the iovstick to the upper right) or smash the axe downwards (press a button and push the lovstick to the bottom right). Jump to avoid the firehalls that your enemy spits out. The swordsman turns into a carpet and you automatically enter the Lost Souls Room.

90) Walk across the room and give the watering can, the spear with axe and the cowbov hat.

91) You have finally reached the overworld. But can vou trust that ladv with the snakes?

Remark: At the end of level 5 there is no hand asking for gold. So you only need enough gold coins to buy the items in the Goodies Room. General remark: Sometimes you are killed in the tunnels although yo have enough energy. Just save from time to time.

GAME ENDS



hotTIP5

Once again Dirk the Daring must rescue the Princess Daphne, this time from the clutches of the evil wizard Mordrok. Use our guide to help you through the game

DRAGON'S LAIR II

PLAYER'S GUIDE NOTES:

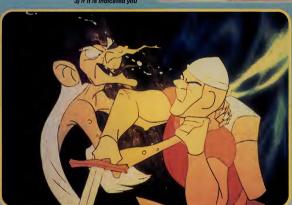


1) All levels except level 8, 9 and 10 have mirror levels. If you play a mirror level, you just have to replace left by right and right by left.

2) Sometimes you can choose between two moves that will give slightly different video sequences. Alternative moves are put between brackets.

3) If it is indicated you





have to press a button twice, this means the next two actions require you to press an action button. If it's indicated you have to push up three times, this means the next three actions require you to move up. It's up to you how many times you want to press you want to press you want to press you want to press the press to press the press of the press of

LEVEL 1: MOM GETS ANGRY

You're enjoying your lunch. Suddenly Daphne's mom comes at you swaying her rolling pin. The abduction of her daughter has made her angry and



sible. A yellow light flashes on your left. Move left to avoid being hit. The entrance lights up. Push left and leave the house. Repeat this move and jump on the back of your horse. Mom is still chasing you. Press an action button twice to keep her at a safe distance (vou destroy the cage with chicken and then duck). Push down to jump off your horse and then push right. You enter a big dark castle. The gate slams down behind you. New evils now

await you. Push a button to kill the snake on the right. Mom finally destroys the gate and enters the castle. Then a light flashes. Move to the right. You are now at the top of a well. (Alternative: move up. You take the arrow and move to the top of the well.) Press a button to kill the spider. (Alternative: push right. You take the bow and kill the spider.) Now you have to descend into the well. Push left to avoid the snake. Then push down. Suddenly Mom charges at you. Press

an action button to avoid her. Don't fall. Move to the left to grab the snake. Then the floor starts crumbling. Push right twice. Time to get out. Press an action button to clear the exit (destroy the lock on the little wooden gate). You have reached the walls. Move to the left. The walls crumble and vou are transported on a stone. Then push down. You disappear into a gap.

LEVEL 2: THE SEARCH FOR THE KEV

After you have disappeared in the ditch,

vou land on an oldfashioned air scooter (time machine). Suddenly you are attacked by a snake that wears Scottish clothes. Press an action button, Beware not to be caught by the tail. Push left to iump away. The Scotsman attacks again, so press a button. Then the creature pushes up your time machine. Push down to move to the left side of the machine. Press a button to hit the snake. It's time to run away. The skull on your right lights up, so push right. Inside the skull, you find a key. But first you have to survive a new attack by the snake. Press a button. Then push left. You take the key and run back towards vour time machine. (Alternative: push up. You first have a drink. Then you take the key and run back towards

the time machine.)

Counter a new attack by pressing an action button twice. Then a light flashes on vour left so nush left You are attacked again. Press a button three times, Meanwhile, Mom appears on the right. The starter of the time machine lights up. Push right. Mom wants to throw a coffin at you, so press a button if you want to stay alive. Mom gets rid of the snake once and for all.

LEVEL 3: THE RED RIVER

Dirk flies over the red river when suddenly he sees Daphne and the wizard fighting on a rock. Push down to land the time machine. Just after the landing, you lose vour sword. Push down and then left or or push left twice to get it back. The rock starts crumbling, so push right. Suddenly you are attacked by a flying lizard. Press a button to defend yourself. (Alternative: move left. Before you start fighting, you will take an egg out of the nest.) Press a button four times to continue vour fight. The lizard takes off and abducts vou. You will have to continue defending yourself after you have been abducted. Move right just before the lizard lands on the ledge. Then you see the princess again, but vou are attacked

before you can

hot TIPS



approach. Press an

action button twice. You kill the great lizard, but instead baby monsters attack vou. A pair of wings appears on the left rock. The rock lights up, so push left. Then a light flashes on your right. Push right. You take the wings and take off. Press an action button to use your sword and then push left. The flying bastards still bother you, so push an action button twice. Lights flash on your left. Push left twice. In the meantime, you have approached the princess. Press an action button. Before you can approach the princess again, the monster that captured her



weakens its arip and the princess falls down to earth. Push left to rescue her. Finally you hold Daphne in your arms. But happiness doesn't last. Press an action button three times to counter new attacks. One of the little monsters even fastens his teeth in vour leg, but a real hero should fight off the pain. However. vou can't hold Daphne, who falls down to the red river for the second time. Push right so you can rescue her. You land on the time machine that is floatina on the red substance. Push left to iump in the water and get your sword back. It is time to regain your time machine, so push right. Then new monsters appear. Press a button three times. After the second press, a huge water monster appears. You end up in the water during the fight. A light flashes on your right. Push right, You manage to reach the

stump. Now you

decide to get rid of the water dino once and for all. Press an action button twice. You enter the monster's mouth. Lights flash on your left. Push left twice. Turn on the time machine by pressing a button.

LEVEL 4: THE QUEEN OF

Dirk faces the wizard and Daphne while they are standing on the mantelpiece. Press a button to counter the thunderbolt. Press again to enter the mirror. Suddenly you are attacked by two lackevs who want to dress vou as a woman. Press a button to scare them off. The floor lightens on your left, so push left. Then the Queen of Hearts enters the room. The floor flashes on your left, so push left. The lackeys attack you, so press a button. Push down to escape. The queen is smashed by her own lackeys and gets terribly angry. Press a button. The Queen of Hearts blows you away. You end up at the feet of three guards. The knight on your right flashes. Push right. Two cards attack on your left. Press a button, An angry Queen of Hearts runs towards vou. The knight flashes again. Push left. You iump on the knight and pursue Daphne and the wizard. You are running in the middle of two lines of marching soldiers. Two cards



attack you on both sides, so press an action button. Another card appears on your right. Press a button again to defend yourself. You reach the chess board. An old man comes out of a teapot and tries to knock you down with his hammer. A light flashes in front of you. Push up. Suddenly a rabbit comes out of the coffee pot on your left. Push left. The castle on the floor flickers. Push right twice. At last you get rid of the old bastard. In the last action sequences, you saw the princess disappear through the door in front of you. But before you enter, a baby dragon appears. Quite harmless, you think, but the little monster shoots up. Press a button to counter the flames. (Alternative: you can also push up and take a card.) The floor flashes behind you. Push left to retreat. You lost your sword. Press twice. You run towards your sword and take it away while you avoid being burned by the dragon. Then the head of an awful cat appears on



vour left, Lights flash above its head. Push left. You climb on the head. Push right and then left (see flashes). Then push an action button if you prefer not to be eaten. Suddenly another cat head appears on your right. Push right to iump over it. Then two new heads appear. One of the heads lights up on the left, so push left. Then another head flashes on the left. Push left again. Suddenly the dragon reappears. Push right. You land on the back of the dragon, where you face the Queen of Hearts again, Press a button and then push down, Lights flash on your right, so push right. You jump on a twirling card. Push left to change cards. The dragon is catching up with you. Push

down.
Meanwhile, you fall into the sea and now you are using your card as a surfboard. But the dragon is still chasing you. Press an action button twice to stay out of its claws. Then lights flash below you. Move down. Now you must find your way

between floating tea pots. Move right and then left. Finally you fly through the glass and reach your time machine again. Push an action button or you will be hit by bursts of electricity.

LEVEL 5: THE GARDEN OF

You land your time machine on a cloud. Push right to take the liana. You climb up towards the next cloud. A gnome lights up. Push west to jump away. Then you find Eden castle on vour left. Push left. You iump towards the entrance, but suddenlv vou are surrounded by the anome and lots of little angels. Push right. You jump on the wall. Push up to continue. You take a liana. Then the liana flashes on your left, so push left. You land on the branch of a tree. Lights flash in front of you. Push up to land on the next branch. Then push right to jump down. A midaet lurks on a tree on your right, Push left. Suddenly you face a "well-formed" ladv. Eve. Unfortunately. she falls in love with vou. Push right. You offer her a flower and run away. But Eve doesn't let you go so easily and pursues vou. Push left three times. You head towards an enormous tree. Suddenly you are attacked by a snake. At the same time, an apple flashes on your left. Press a button or push left. If

vou push left, it gets dark, the apple lights up and you take the apple. Then you are attacked by two snakes. Push an action button three times - continue pressing after they are wrapped around your neck. Then you find yourself hanging between both snakes below the branch. Push up. Press a button twice to continue the fight. Then you are lying on

the ground with both snakes still around you. A light flashes on vour right, so push right. Then press an action button twice. Meanwhile, Eve's apple appears on your right. When the apple flashes the first time, vou can push right or press an action button. Push right when the apple flickers again. You take the apple. Suddenly Eve reappears. The ground lights up at vour feet. Push down. Then the around flashes on your right. so push right. The gnome and Eve want to snatch away your apple. Press an action button twice to keep

the apple out of Eve's and the gnome's hands. Unfortunately, Eve manages to take away the apple. After Eve has eaten the apple, an earthmuske

earthquake takes place. Push right if you prefer not to fall in the gap. You run away while you are chased by Eve. First push right and then push left twice. Press a button to jump the gap in the bridge, Suddenly the earth is pushed up by the earthquake, Push right three times. You run back and enter the sewer system. A sewer lights up, so push right again. Suddenly a giant spider appears in front of you. Press an action button to defeat the monster. Push right to enter the sewer at your feet. Then push left three times to regain vour time machine. Press an action button to leave Eden.

TO BE CONTINUED....



Write to The Editor, CDi Magazine, 1500 16th Street, Suite 100, San Francisco, California 94103, USA

auality control

I love your mag, because it gives me all the information I need on CDi. But that's where the fun ends! Is it just me or am I being too picky? I've owned my CDi 220 player for nearly three years now, and I have to say that although I am very pleased with the picture and sound quality, I'm disappointed at the amount of time it takes for new titles to be released. Take Microcosm as an example. When I bought my player this title was being advertised. After waiting and waiting, I called Philips in March and was told the game was being shelved. Now come on guys - I've seen this game on Sega CD and 3DO, so if they can do it, why can't Philips? And where is Rebel Assault? It was supposed to be out this year, but it too has been cancelled. OK, so maybe Philips has released good titles like Litil Divil. Burn:Cycle and Clue. But come on guys, did I pay \$750 to play games like Wacky Golf and Hotel Mario? Hell no! Look at some of the stuff that just came out on 3DO. Need For Speed looks great, And you cannot compare Mutant Rampage on CDi to games like Mortal Kombat or Street Fighter on the SNES.



Microcosm and need Assault have been cancelled due to insurmountable technical problems, but a rash of top-quality games will be released later this year. These include Creature Shock, Heart of Darkness, Lost Eden, Dead End, Thunder in Paradise, Crime Patro and Mad Dog McCree 2. We'll bring you more in Sea soon as we can.

ED



more sports sims please!

I'm a new CDi owner who bought a player last December, I'd been researching the system for some time, but wanted to wait to make sure that CDi technology wouldn't be quickly superseded. Now I'm convinced that CDi will definitely be the way of things to come! I'm writing with a couple of questions. Firstly, why are there two different Digital Video cartridges on the market and what is the difference between them? (I'm looking to buy one soon).

Secondly, I'm an avid sports fan and would love to see more football, baseball or even basketball games on CDI. I know with CDI technology you could do so much with sports sims. Are there any sports games in production to be released soon?

Darrin Pikarsky, Syracuse, NY 13209

The reason there are two versions of the DV cartridge is simple. The original, larger, cartridge was designed to fit the slot at the back of early CDi players such as the 220 The newer, smaller Magnavox 450 player takes a smaller cartridge, and this is now being adopted across the range for use with all new players. As far as I know, the technical performance of both versions is identical. As for sports sims. World Cup Golf from US Gold will be released later this year

back issues

CDi is the best and your magazine is great, but I have a few questions. For back issues, you said in the last issue we should fax your London office. But I do not have a fax machine and am unable to use anyone else's, so what should I do? Can I get back issues through the mail?

Second point. I'm all for Video CD movies in the widescreen format, but I've seen some movies on TV, such as Star Trek II and Naked Gun, which had extra footage not on the Video CD version. If more widescreen discs are released, is it possible for the missing

footage to be added to them?

much potential.

between.

NJ 08052

Lou Pfafman,

Maple Shade.

But I think developers

Berenstain Bears and

should worry less about Sesame Street Letters or

produce some real titles.

The good games titles on CDi are too few and far

Thank you for your time. It's been great reading your magazine. Keep up the good

E J Carey, Seaford, DE 19973

For back issues, you can write to our London office at the following address: CDi Magazine, Haymarket Publishing, 38-42 Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 BLG, UK.

With regard to the missing footage on some Video CD



Naked Gun: missing link?

titles, you need to speak to Philips Media in Los Angeles on 310 444 6572.

ED

letters

DV or not DV?

I'd first like to start out by saying congratulations on your wonderful magazine. It's the greatest I've got a few questions. purchased the Magnavox 450, which I think is wonderful. But I was looking through another games magazine and I saw Space Ace for the Sega CD. Now the Sega CD is a 16 bit machine, so if Sega can make Space Ace (and Dragon's Lair) work on their system, why can't Philips make it work on a base-case CDi player without the optional Digital Video cartridge? I can't afford to

of Burn:Cycle is an excellent game, but why is the video so pixillised? The Sega CD has much better video on it. Don't get me wrong — Burn:Cycle is still the best game I've played on any system.

buy the DV cartridge, and it

seems all the good games

require it, with the exception

I have one more question.
Why doesn't Phillips come
out with some more
role-playing and fighting
games like Mortal Kombat or
Final Fantasy? That way,
Phillips would sell a heck of a



Space Ace: better graphics with DV cartridge lot more CDi players.

Brandon Garrison, Paducah, KY 42003

Space Ace on CDi has better graphics than any other version precisely because it uses the DV cartridge to run full MPEG 1 video, giving TV quality animation. Burn:Cycle has pixillated graphics because it does not use the cartridge, so cannot run full motion

Prilips is already developing new role-playing games such as Kingdom: The Far Reaches and Secret Mission, which will be released later this year. More fighting games are in development.

ED

wide of the mark

I think that films should be released in their original widescreen format on Video CD. What is the point of Philips pushing CDI as an atternative film medium to VHS if this is not going to happen? A golden opportunity was missed when the James Bond films were released on Video CD. Why present them in pan and scan when the films would have been more desirable in their original format? If the property of the prop

If Philips wants us to regard CDi as more than a simple games machine, widescreen films have to be made available. Otherwise film buffs such as me will turn to



Most viewers prefer films, such as Bond movies in pan and scan LaserDisc. Didn't Philips pioneer widescreen TV?

AR Doyle, Florida

Consumer research shows that the majority of consumers prefer pan and scan films, but Philips is evaluating further widescreen releases.

ED

aame patroi

I originally bought my CDi not only because it was a great games machine, but as a substitute for a LaserDisc player. I was, however, disappointed when I realised that none of the movies were available in their original widescreen format. I find the widescreen version of films far superior to the pan and scan editions available on VHS. I would love to see great movies like "Forrest Gump" and "Star Trek: Generations" available in this format on Video CD. The games on CDi are amazing. There is no other system that can rival CDi sound and graphics. Are there any plans to release



Feel good factor: Forrest Gump is coming soon on Video CD more American Laser Games products like Space Pirates, Crime Patrol and Mad Dog McCree 2 on CDi?

Craig Marshall, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 2E6

Crime Patrol and Mad Dog McCree 2 will be released on CDi in due course.

ED

wider vision

I have a CDI player with DV carridge and I would like to ask some questions. I) What is the difference between LaserDisc and CDi? 2) What is meant by the term encoding? With reference to widescreen versions of Video CDs, I think widescreen or letterbox has a great deal of depth and more picture. Let's have more, please. 3) Do you plan to come out each month?

Jason Pearce, Boston

LaserDisc is an analogue system which plays films off large 12 inch diameter discs.



Wide view: would Patriot Games be better on widescreen?

CDi is a digital system which plays films, and interactive titles, off a standard five inch compact disc. Encoding is the term used to transfer video onto CD (see our technical feature, March issue). We have no plans to go monthly.

ED

microcosm mystery



I am the proud owner of the CDI 220 and eagerly wait for each issue of the magazine. In one of your early editions you screened a preview of Microcosm, which I thought looked fantastic. I have watched in dismay as it has been released in other formats, such as PC, but not in CDi. Could you please try to find out what has happened to it?

Adam Hardacre, Houston, Texas

Microcosm has been cancelled due to insurmountable technical problems.

ED

CDI TITLES CATALOG AND PRICE LIST SUMMER 1995

CHILDREN'S TITLES

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST The story of Beauty and the Beast told by Mia Farrow. Price \$19.98 Catalog No 310 690 114 2

BERENSTAIN BEARS ON THEIR OWN AND ON YOUR OWN

Meet the popular and friendly Berenstain Bears and follow the young bears' antics as they try and persuade their parents to let them go to the fair. Price \$39.98 Catalog No 310 690 110 2

THE BEST OF BABY SONGS (DV)

Features 20 music videos from the award-winning Baby Song video series. Hap Palmer's finger-snapping songs celebrate the joys of a child's world.

Price \$14.98 Catalog No 310 690 296 2

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The story of Brer Babbit and Brer Fox told by Danny Glover. Price \$19.98 Catalog No 310 690 045 2

CARTOON CARNIVAL (DV OPTION) Classic cartoons from Hanna

Barbera. Each time vou win a game, collect a letter. When you can spell Cartoon Carnival, you are rewarded with a cartoon in Digital Video.

Price \$39.98 Catalog No 310 690 094 2

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Favorite tunes such as Pop Goes the Weasel and Row, Row, Row Your Boat. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 001 2

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Twelve moral tales narrated by Danny Glover with jazz score by Ron Carter. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 085 2

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Dating game for pre-teenage girls. Get to meet your dream date, ask him lots of questions and dress him as you like. Price \$49.98 Catalog No 310 690 070 2

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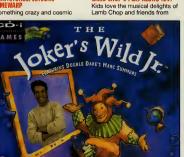
in Spanish or English versions.

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Marc Summers hosts this funtastic interactive version of the popular TV quiz show. Spin the wheel and face questions galore. Price \$39.98 Catalog No 310 690 182 2

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these special segments from the hit PBS show, which turn viewers into "doers" on CDi. Price \$14.98 Catalog No 310 690 289 2

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Spend a day with Little Monster at home and at school in this interactive version of the popular children's book by kids' author Mercer Mayer. Price \$34.98 Catalog No 310 690 097 2

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on an intergalactic adventure of your own making. Create your own stories

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Interactive version of the film. Catalog No 310 690 235 2 Price TSA

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GAMES

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Navigate a hip little candy-collector through 51 remarkable mazes in this high energy puzzle extravaganza

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Dirk the Daring is the hero in this



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DRAGON'S LAIR II (DV)

This time Dirk makes his way through a trap-laden timewarp to rescue Daphne and foil evil Mordroc. Nine levels with razor sharp graphics.

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2142 AD. Battle your way back to earth to stop the invading mutant forces. Flashback: the ultimate test in survival — the ultimate platform game. Does not require a DV cartridge. Price 18A Catalon No 310 690 166 2

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Join Lathan, the last of the Argent bloodline, as he strives to regain five ancient relics in order to restore Princess Grace Delight to the throne. Price \$49.98 Catalog No 310 690 262 2

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Poor old Mutt must work his way through the Labyrinth of Chaos where he must find the Mystical Pizza of Plenty. A game of exploration, fighting and pursues. Price \$49.98. Ctation No 310 690 141.2

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Summerall and Tommy
Bookshier return in this ultimate
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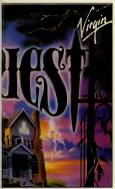
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Join Dr Dearth on a roller coaster ride in the sequel to Mystic Midway that takes you through the various stages of life in this 3-D shooting game. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 247 2

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The classic Russian puzzle game featuring ten levels of play and made popular by the ubiquitous Gameboy. Ten CD soundtracks and video backgrounds make this version something special. Price \$34.98 Catalog No 310 690 188 2

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characters

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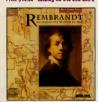
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Michael Douglas and Andy Garcia play New York cops whose job - to escort a vicious assassin back to his native Japan - leads the two Americans into Osaka's exotic underworld and straight into the center of a brutal Yakuza gangland hattle Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 315 2

THE BLACK STALLION

Alec Ramsey is traveling home with his father on a ship in the Mediterranean. Alec notices a magnificent black stallion on board, being calmed by his handlers. During a violent storm

Alec, fighting for his life, manages to cut the stallion free. The horse saves Alec's life by draging him to the shore. They are the sole survivors

stranded on a strange island. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 413 2

RULL DURMAN

Two of America's favorite pastimes - baseball and sex team up in this winning comedy. Set in the bedrooms and ballfields of a minor league town. this love triangle includes Kevin Costner, Tim Robbins and Susan Sarandon. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 501 2

The superb classic horror movie based on the novel by Stephen King, directed by Brian De Palma and starring Sissy Spacek and Piper Laurie. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 426 2

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

Dick Van Dyke plays an inventor who can't guite ever build anything that works, until he creates a wonderful old car. Based on the novel by Ian Fleming. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 410 2

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Harrison Ford in the third film based on Tom Clancy's Jack Rvan, A tale of intrigue and revenge in the war between South American drugs barons and the US government. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 410 2

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DANCES WITH WOLVES

Directed, co-produced by and starring Kevin Costner, this epic is set in the 1860s American frontier. Lured by a desire to witness this last frontier before it vanishes. Union soldier Lt. John Dunbar (Costner) becomes trapped between two worlds as he is slowly drawn into the fold of a Sioux tribe living in the Dakota territory. Winner of seven Academy Awards. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 502 2

DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER

Blofeld (played by Charles Gray) attempts to hold the world to ransom using a Star Wars-style

laser in space. Sean Connery stare as James Rond Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 421 2

DR NO

Sean Connery is James Bond 007: the suave, charming and fearless agent sent to Jamaica to investigate the double murder of a British agent and his secretary. Bond is soon on the tail of Dr No, a fanatical scientist plotting to take over the world

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Tom Cruise as the lawver who has it all - a fabulous career. mega salary, beautiful wife and lavish home. But then it all starts to go horribly wrong when he finds out more than he should. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 308 2

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Starring John Cleese and Jamie Lee Curtis. An American girl, Wanda, comes to London to steal some diamonds with Otto. Things go seriously wrong when English barrister (Cleese) and Wanda meet, and Otto starts to get iealous.

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Oscar-winning film with Tom Hanks playing honest simpleton Forrest Gump in a tale which spans thirty years of American history. Superb technical effects put Gump in scenes with John Lennon and JFK. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 339 2

FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL

British star Hugh Grant and Andie MacDowell turned this observation of British society weddings into a huge hit. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 212 2

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

Gorgeous Soviet embassy cipher clerk (Daniela Bianchi) ensnares incorruptible British Secret Service agent 007 in a scheme to steal the Russians' decoding machine, Bond must discover if this beautiful woman works for or against him. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 403 2

GOLDFINGER

007 takes on the man with the Midas touch, billionaire Auric



Goldfinger, in this explosive and witty James Bond thriller. The monomaniacal Goldfinger plans to throw the Western world economy into a tailspin by contaminating all the gold in Fort Knox with nuclear radiation, Only Bond can stop him. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 407

THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER

A new, technologically superior Soviet nuclear submarine, The Red October, is heading for the US under the command of Captain Marko Ramius (Sean Connery). The US government thinks Ramius is planning to attack. A lone CIA analyst (Alec Baldwin) thinks Ramius is planning to defect, but he has only a few hours to find him and prove it. Price \$24.98 Catalog No: 310 690 302 2

INDECENT PROPOSAL

Demi Moore and Woody Harrelson play the happy couple who suddenly find their marriage under pressure when, just as they are in danger and in need of extra money, the wealthy and handsome Robert Redford makes the ultimate offer. Price \$24.98 Catalog No310 690 316 2

IRVING RERUN'S

WHITE CHRISTMAS A treasury of composer Berlin's classics, among them "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep", "Blue Skies", and naturally "White Christmas". Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 306 2

LIVE AND LET DIE

Plunging into a dangerous underworld in pursuit of the menacing head of a giant heroin operation, 007 (Roger Moore) must outwit and outcharm an alluring tarot princess (Jane Seymour) in this Bond classic. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 417 2

MARRIED TO THE MOB

Michelle Pfeiffer plays the wife of a Mafia hitman who tries to go straight after the death of her husband. But the local Mafia boss has other ideas. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 503 2

MISSISSIPPI BURNING

Based on the true story of the disappearance of three civil rights workers in the deep south in the 1960s. Gene Hackman and Willem Dafoe play two FBI agents investigating the case. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 510 2

MOONRAKER

Bond is on the trail of a stolen space shuttle. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690417 2

MOONSTRUCK

A mischievous moon enlightens and invigorates many lives, but it casts its greatest glow on Loretta (Cher) and Ronny (Nicolas Cage) as it draws them together Price \$24,98 Catalog No 310 690 401 2

NAKED GUN

Leslie Nielsen, king of the spoof. moves from the small screen of TV's Police Squad and lands a starring role in Naked Gun as the incompetent cop Frank Debin who is out to foil an assassination attempt on the Queen in LA. Price \$24.98 Catalog No310 690 323 2

NAKED GUN 2 1/2

Lt. Frank Drebin (Leslie Nielsen) loves a mystery. Drebin tackles the big issues - and the biggest is how to stop devious Quentin Hapsburg's (Robert Goulet) plan to destroy the environment. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 312 2

NAKED GUN 33 1/3

Oscar night. Who will win? Who will lose? And will someone please kick that numbskull off

stage? Wait! It's Lt. Frank Drebin, crashing the ceremonies to stop a terrorist plot that could mean curtains for him. Back are the Naked Gun filmmakers you love and the stars you adore for another hilarious sequel. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 336 2

OCTOBUISCY

Two villains, played by Louis Jordan and Steven Berkoff, are involved in smuggling Tsarist treasures in this classic James Bond movie. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 416 2

OF MICE AND MEN

The efforts of a young farm worker moving from farm to farm trying to keep his simple friend out of trouble reflect today's issues of homelessness in a subtle, intelligent way, John Malkovitch is excellent as the simple Lennie and Gary Sinise as his friend George. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 423 2

The ever-popular Goldie Hawn plays an heiress who falls off her yacht and loses her memory. When she comes round in hospital, she finds she is being "claimed" by father of three and carpenter Kurt Russell. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 424 2

PATRIOT GAMES

His days as an intelligence agent behind him, former CIA analyst Jack Ryan (Harrison Ford) has traveled to London with his wife (Anne Archer) and child. Meeting his family outside Buckingham Palace, Ryan is caught in the middle of a terrorist attack on a member of the Royal family. He must return to action for the most vital task of his life; to save his family Price: \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 314 2

THE PINK PANTHER

Peter Sellers is the bumbling. bungling French detective Inspector Clouseau, hot on the trail of the notorious jewel thief "The Phantom". Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 427 2

PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMÓBILES

On his way home to spend Thanksgiving with his family, Neal Page (Steve Martin) finds himself sitting beside an uncouth loudmouth called Del Griffith (John Candy) on a flight from New York to Chicago. A snowstorm causes the flight to be diverted, and one disaster leads to another Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 317 2

POSSE

Heroes, villains, gunslingers, outlaws and rebels in this classic western story about a posse that blazes across the West with vengeance and justice on their minds Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 254 2

DUIGLEY DOWN LINDER

Tom Selleck plays a gunslinger who travels to Australia to work for an evil landowner (Alan Rickman). Selleck takes an instant dislike to him, resulting in a duel to the death. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 418 2

RAGING BULL

For what is still considered the performance of his career Robert De Niro won the 1980 Best Actor Oscar for his searing portraval of real-life boxer Jake La Motta in a film that routinely lists among critics' top ten picks of the decade. Martin Scorsese's flawless direction and Michael Chapman's gritty cinematography vividly capture the blood and brutality of the fight world... and the dark landscape of the human soul. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 402 2

RAIN MAN

Tom Cruise plays Charlie Babbitt, a young man who discovers at his father's funeral that he has an autistic brother, Raymond (Dustin Hoffman), What begins as an unsentimental journey across America to contest their father's will evolves into an odvssev of love and self-revelation as Raymond forces Charlie to grow beyond the limits of his handicapped heart. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 408 2

Patrick Swayze plays a bouncer (with a NYU Philosophy major) hired by a local bar/nightclub to keep things clean and tidy. There's only one problem, local bad quy Ben Gazzara! Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 428 2

ROBOCOP

Part man, part machine, all cop. RoboCop is programmed to 1) serve the public trust, 2) uphold the law, 3) protect the innocent. But there are forces on the street and within a crooked private security agency, Security Concepts Inc. - that will stop at nothing to see this major cyborg violently eliminated. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 506 2

ROBOCOP 2

Robocop 1 battles Robocop 2. an evil cyborg with the brain of a drug addicted criminal. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 507 2

Sylvester Stallone in the film that made his career. He wrote this feelgood rags-to-riches story about a Philadelphian boxer which became one of the alltime box office hits. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 412 2

THE SECRET OF NIMH

This animation classic from Don Bluth Productions is the story of timid Mrs Brisby (Elizabeth Hartman), a widowed field mouse who must summon the courage to defy man, beast and nature. With the help of love-sick Jeremy the crow (Dom DeLuise) and the rats of Nimh, she finds the strength to overcome the obstacles that threaten her. Price \$24.9 Catalog No 310 690 406 2

SILENCE OF THE LAMBS

FBI agent Clarice Starling (Jodie Foster) is sent to interview imprisoned killer Dr Hannibal "The Cannibal" Lecter (Sir Anthony Hopkins). She hopes he might reveal information about another crazed killer who is abducting young women, starving them, and then killing them. The terror builds as the killer grabs another victim and the countdown to death begins. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 509 2

Starring Sharon Stone and Alec Baldwin, Carly (Stone) moves to a high rise apartment which was previously inhabited by a woman who looked like her, and committed suicide for no obviously apparent reason. Shortly after moving in her next door neighbor is murdered and she begins to suspect that her own life is in peril. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 309 2

STAR TREK 1:

THE MOTION PICTURE A strange all-powerful force approaches Earth threatening everything in its path. Kirk and his crew must stop it. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 333 2

STAR TREK II: WRATH OF KHAN

A Trekkie adventure story that nits Captain Kirk's Enterprise against Khan in a battle for control of a new lifeforce. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 310 2

STAR TREK III

Admiral Kirk's defeat of Khan and the creation of Genesis planet are empty victories. Spock is dead and McCoy is

being driven insane. A surprise visit from Spock's father provides a revelation: McCov is harboring Spock's living essence. With one friend alive and one not, but both in pain, Kirk attempts to help his friends by stealing the USS Enterprise, and defying Starfleet's Genesis planat augrantine Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 334 2

STAR TREK IV: THE VOYAGE HOME

It's the 23rd century and a mysterious alien power is threatening earth by evaporating the oceans and destroying the atmosphere. In a frantic attempt to save mankind. Kirk and his crew must time travel back to 1986 San Francisco where they find a world of punk, pizza and buses which is as alien as anything they've encountered in the far reaches of the galaxy. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 311 2

It's Stardate 8454,130 and Captain Kirk and Spock's vacation is cut short when a renegade Vulcan hijacks the Enterprise and pilots it on a journey to uncover the universe's innermost secrets. The Star Trek stars are back for one of their most astonishing voyages, with all the fun and excitement fans have come to love. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 337 2

STAR TREK VI: THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY

The Enterprise leads a battle for peace in the most spectacular Star Trek adventure ever! At the peace summit, a Klingon ship is attacked and the Enterprise is held accountable. The dogs of war are unleashed

again, and both worlds brace for what might be their final, deadly encounter. Starring William Shatner, Leonard Nimov and DeForest Kelley.
Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 304 2

STAR TREK: GENERATIONS

The cast of The Next Generation make their debut on Video CD. Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 340 2

THELMA & LOUISE

When unhappy housewife Thelma (Geena Davis) and her wisecracking waitress friend Louise (Susan Sarandon) decide to take a break from their lives. they embark on a trip that leads to a tragic incident at a roadside honky tonk. In an instant, their weekend "getaway" becomes just that as the two friends speed across the American



southwest with the police an ever-present step behind. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 414 2

THE SPY WHO LOVED ME

More elaborate escapades from 007, the suave British agent, Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 432 2

THUNDERBALL

This time, Bond's mission is to recover two atomic bombs that arch rival SPECTRE has stolen to hold the world to ransom Price \$29.98 Catalog No 310 690 431 2

TOP GUN

Top Gun takes a look at the danger and excitement that awaits every pilot at the Navy's prestigious fighter weapons' school. Tom Cruise is superb as Mayerick Mitchell. Kelly McGillis sizzles as the

civilian instructor who teaches Mayerick a few things you can't learn in the classroom. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 301 2

A VIEW TO A KILL

Roger Moore in his last outing as Bond, with Grace Jones as the villain and more than enough stunts, gadgets and spectacle to keep you entertained. Price \$24.98 Catalog No310 690 409 2

WAYNE'S WORLD

Based on characters created for America's hugely popular Saturday Night Live, the film is about a (very) small (very) local TV channel run from a basement by two metalhead no-hopers Wayne and Garth. Everything is going just fine until one day along comes a network TV producer with offers of fame and lots of money. Romantic interest is provided by Tia

WAYNE'S WORLD 2

Carrere.

More fun and frolicks from the deebish duo, Wayne and Garth. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 332 2

Price \$24.98 Catalog No: 310 690 318 2

When a pretty young Mutant named Jubilee is attacked by a huge search-and-destroy robots known as Sentinels, Roque, Storm and Gambit unleash all their X-MEN super powers to rescue her. With Professor Xavier's help, they discover the Sentinel assault is part of a sinister program designed to exterminate all Mutants. Price \$14.98 Catalog No 310 690 149 2

YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE

Agent 007 is back in the fifth film in the James Bond series. An American space mission is interrupted when one of their capsules is literally swallowed up by what they suspect is a Russian spaceship. The Americans threaten to retaliate but the British think otherwise. Everything depends on Bond as he goes undercover in Japan. With help from his Ninja colleagues, world peace is once again restored and SPECTRE's plans are thwarted. Price \$24.98 Catalog No 310 690 415 2

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